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Kernan Announces \$182,800 in Training Grants for Three West Central Indiana Businesses

INDIANAPOLIS — Lt. Governor Joe Kernan announced today that three West central Indiana companies have been awarded training grants from the Indiana Department of Commerce's Skills Enhancement Fund.

"These grants are designed for companies that want a good return on a worthy investment—their workforce," said Kernan, who leads the state's economic development efforts. "We are proud to be a part of such an investment and believe it will not only keep these companies competitive, it will also ensure that Hoosier workers are up-to-date on advancements in their fields."

- **Gartland Foundry Co. Inc.**, Terre Haute, has been awarded a \$25,500 grant to train two new and 83 incumbent employees as part of a \$900,000 capital investment in building renovations and new equipment. Founded in 1902 and now managed by a third generation of family members, Gartland is one of the chief iron foundries in the nation as well as a leader in highly machineable castings. Gartland will use the grant to train employees in on-the-job training, core making and International Standards Organization.
- **Great Dane Trailers Limited Partnership**, Brazil, has been awarded a \$106,750 grant to train 500 new and 850 incumbent employees after a \$303,387 investment in equipment upgrades. The company completed its first piggyback trailer order in 1961 and its first maritime container order in 1963. With sales outlets in 24 states, Great Dane will use the training grant to train its Indiana employees in welding, extrusion, caulking, quality control and lean manufacturing.
- **Tredegar Film Products Corp.**, Terre Haute, has been awarded a \$50,550 grant to train nine new and 161 existing employees as a result of the company's \$5 million investment in equipment upgrades. At the center of innovation, Tredegar Film is a major supplier of embossed, breathable, elastomeric and non-woven laminate films for disposable personal and medical applications. Employees will gain skills in quality and process improvement, methodologies, design, manufacturing, operations and service.

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Region Six Skills Enhancement Fund/ add 1

Commerce awards Skills Enhancement Fund grants to Indiana companies that undertake capital investment projects. The grants help defray the costs of training new and current employees in basic work skills and company-specific skills necessary to support the project. Companies interested in learning more about the Skills Enhancement Fund should contact their regional Commerce office 800.463.8081 or visit the Web site at www.indianacommerce.com.

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